## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Christine M. Durham** 

Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court

**Daniel J. Becker** State Court Administrator



The mission of the Utah Courts is to provide an open, fair, efficient, and independent system for the advancement of justice under the law.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 18, 2006

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## JUDGES TO HEAR GRAND JURY TESTIMONY

A panel of judges is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 11, 2006 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. to hear testimony to determine if reasonable cause exists to call a grand jury. The meeting will take place in the Eighth Judicial District at the Duchesne Courthouse, 21554 West 9000 South.

Those wanting to testify before the panel of judges should contact District Court Administrator D. Mark Jones at (801) 578-3800 by May 4, 2006 to schedule a one-half hour appointment. Individuals testifying must be prepared to give evidence to support claims that justify calling a grand jury. Controversies between individual parties will not be considered.

Individuals who need special accommodations during the hearing must notify Mark Jones at least three business days prior to the hearing.

Utah's Grand Jury Statute requires a panel of judges selected from throughout the state hold hearings in each judicial district every three years. The purpose of the hearings is to determine if a grand jury needs to be summoned based on evidence of criminal activity.

The Attorney General, a county attorney, district attorney, or special prosecutor appointed under U.C.A. 77-10a-1 can also present evidence if it is based on criminal activity. The panel of judges will hear, in secret, all persons claiming information that justifies calling a grand jury. All individuals appearing before the panel of judges will be placed under oath.

If a grand jury is summoned, the jurors will be called from the state-at-large or any judicial district within the state.